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My idea would be that the superintendent should make a note of all failings as she noticed them, and at the end of some class meeting have motherly, heart-to-heart talks with the girls. Don't pick one or two to scold; assume they are all liable to forget and make mistakes. Hold great and noble women, from all walks of life, before them as examples. They will probably not act as though they paid much heed to you at the time, but deep in their hearts you will have made a lasting impression, to bear fruit in after-years.

Rhode Island.

JEANNETTE GARDNER HEATH.

CIVIL SERVICE AND POLITICAL INFLUENCE

DEAR EDITOR: I have been reading "The Awakening," by Nancy E. Cadmus, in the July JOURNAL, and though I agree with Miss Cadmus about registration and its good results, I am sure she did not take politics into consideration when she wrote the following: "Very few reputable physicians or hospitals are willing to employ any but registered nurses. Those seeking positions on Boards of Health, School Board Nurses, and positions in the great industrial, social, and philanthropic schemes of the day quickly see the necessity of giving proof of their professional status."

The following is an incident that happened in this city very recently:

One thousand dollars was appropriated by the city officials to employ a Board of Health and School Nurse. She was to do tuberculosis work under the Board of Health when not busy with school work, the appointment to be made by the Board of Health, which is composed of three physicians. A Civil Service examination was held. There were four applicants, who were notified that they were eligible to enter the examination. Later the two who stood highest on the list, and who were hospital graduates, and also registered nurses, were disqualified as non-residents, and the third one was appointed, who, much to our surprise and indignation, is not a graduate nurse at all, but a practical nurse, who has been working in a Foundling Home where they give some kind of a diploma after eighteen months. Naturally she knows very little about general nursing, nothing at all about tuberculosis work, school work, district or social work. She told me she had seen a toe amputated once, but said she had had lectures and knew the surgical technique, of course.

It hardly looks like a square deal with the people who are taxed to pay the salary, to say nothing of the patients, or the nurses who have spent years in preparation for this kind of work. But perhaps we should not look for a square deal from physicians, boards of health, or other organizations, if they are under political influence. It looks very much as though civil service were a farce.

S. C. E.

A VACATION IN PLATTE CANON.

DEAR EDITOR: Nestling down among the mountains of Platte Canon is the Blue Jay Inn, the holiday house of the Girl's Friendly Society of Colorado.

As we enter, there swings by the gate in Old World style the painted sign of the "Blue Jay." The wide porch, with its abundance of comfortable chairs and hammocks, invites us to rest awhile. Entering the hall we are charmed with the wide fireplace with the motto over the mantel, "The mountains also shall bring peace," and the clock with its garland of wild roses, and the words of Hood in quaint lettering, "Gather ye rosebuds while ye may," reminding us